

PEACE NEWS

No. 402 February 25, 1944 2d.

Beware of Atrocities!

ONCE again apparently authentic atrocity stories, given official support, have turned out to be partly or wholly untrue.

On Feb. 8 it was reported in the whole of the British Press that the Germans had deliberately shelled a field hospital at the Anzio beach-head, killing a number of nurses and wounded. This report is now contradicted by a special correspondent representing the combined British Press. In a despatch dated Feb. 11 he writes, that investigations have now established (1) that the shelling was not deliberate, (2) that some of the casualties were caused by the machine-gunning of our own aircraft.

What actually happened was that a German airman, in trying to escape from one of our fighters, jettisoned his anti-personnel bombs.

This clearing of the Germans from the accusation made against them on insufficient evidence does credit to the British correspondents at the Anzio bridgehead. But it is lamentable that it did not appear in any of the popular newspapers which gave the original report their headlines. It appeared, so far as we know, only in a small paragraph in The Times of Feb. 16.

NEWS HELD UP

Mr. Eden's recent statement to the Commons on cruel treatment of prisoners of war by the Japanese, although accepted by "Observer" in Peace News, Feb. 4, as "substantially true" (because it was "more sober and less lurid than his previous account" of the behaviour of the Japanese after the capture of Hong Kong) has also lost some force.

Mr. Eden said on Jan. 28: "Neutral inspection we have asked for over and over again. . . . We have been met throughout . . . with refusal." But The Times of Feb. 5 reported that "the Japanese military authorities have agreed to allow five Swedish missionaries, delegates of the Swedish YMCA, to visit British and American prisoners of war in the Philippines."

A footnote to this Reuter report said that it had been announced in New York on Feb. 2 that

"the prisoners of war aid committee of the YMCA had received permission from the Japanese Government to extend its work to prison camps in the Philippines. Officials of the committee then said that permission had been received several days before the announcement of the atrocities suffered by prisoners of war at Bataan." (Our emphasis.)

Buried in this footnote seems to be a startling admission that good news had been held up in order that bad news should have maximum effect—which tends to confirm the Daily Mail report (Feb. 9—quoted by "Observer" last week) that

"Churchill and Roosevelt made the final decision to release the horror stories after being convinced that they would stiffen Home Front morale, inflame fighting spirit, and boost War Bond sales."

In the circumstances even "sober" atrocity stories should be regarded with suspicion.

BELIEVE IT OR NOT!

Meanwhile, a good example of the not-so-sober report has appeared in The Star (Feb. 16). Based on a BUP message quoting the Russian newspaper Izvestia, it said:

"The Germans shot or hanged 100 to 150 people a day at one period during their occupation of Luga. . . .

"When they left the Germans tried to take with them 250 orphans whose parents they had executed. But the children refused to get into the lorries and had to be left behind."

Apparently the children only had to say "No" and the Germans were powerless!

*Following Mr. Eden's description of Japanese atrocities after the capture of Hong Kong, the Daily Mail (29.5.42) quoted Lieut. J. W. Hurst, RNR, who had escaped from the island, as saying that the general Japanese attitude was "neither friendly nor hostile." Time, the American news-magazine, declared (18.5.42) that "the Japanese were treating prisoners surprisingly well."

MUTUAL DESTRUCTION IS THE PRICE OF 'VICTORY'

RUSSIAN plans for the dismemberment of Germany (first indicated by the Observer, Feb. 13) are said to be definite and serious. They include the annexation of Konigsberg by Russia, and of Danzig and Pomerania with Stettin by "Poland."

In fact, "Poland" can have as much of Germany as she likes: "Upper Silesia and possibly Lower Silesia as well." (New Statesman, Feb. 19.) The German population is to be driven out and its place taken by the Poles from the territories incorporated in Russia.

It is hardly fitting for the "progressives" to be shocked now, after two years' choral insistence that Russia must, because of her inherent moral superiority, be given carte blanche in Europe. And, after all, the plan may "work." First, because the new "Poland" will be completely dependent on Russia from the beginning; second, because it is now inconceivable that any future Germany can hope to succeed in a war against Russia.

But it means the end of Europe as a potential unity of civilization. The Germans cannot justly complain of that, though of course they do.

Moral Duplicity

THE Germans had their chance to make the unity of Europe a reality. They failed. Was it their own fault? Mainly. But it was partly our fault, too. By continuing the war against German Europe (not for Europe against Germany as we pretended) we made it impossible for the Germans to relax their heavy hand.

And so on, and so on. The truth is that the whole horrible and paradoxical business has been evil from the beginning. Hitler was largely the creation of Britain and France. Then they "appeased" the Devil they had

created, and yielded to force what they would not yield to justice. And, here in Britain, those who clamoured loudest against "appeasement" were precisely those who resisted the military measures necessary to make Hitler pause. All along the line moral duplicity. Now comes the nemesis. Germany is defeated; and so are we. The victory is Russia's.

Mutual Destruction

THAT is why silence is clamped down on discussion of the coming peace-settlement in public and in Parliament. If the Russian plan were

Observer's Commentary

to be discussed, the futility of the war, the hollowness of the Russian alliance, and the sheer humbug of the Atlantic Charter, would be manifest to everybody. Preferable to that tragedy is to pound away at the automatic devastation of Germany and Italy—and soon some other part of Europe.

As the airmen themselves must not think what they are doing, so the British people must not think what it is doing—or Churchill is doing for it. "It just doesn't bear thinking about." More truly, the mind of Britain could not bear to think about it. It would just explode, or go haywire, if it were to realize that this is a war for the destruction of Britain as well as Germany. Russia and America are the only victors. That is what Hitler says. But it happens to be true.

Growing Discontent

THIS incipient disillusion with Churchill's war is evident in the series of recent bye-elections. A powerful resistance, instinctive rather

than reasoned, to the Churchill coalition government is developing. I say Churchill coalition, rather than coalition (though notoriously England does not love coalitions), because there is nothing to show that a coalition of a different kind might not have had the support of the country. This one has certainly lost it.

If there were a general election now, though Churchill himself might be retained as war-leader, his supporters would be of a quite different complexion—a majority of Parliament would certainly be determined to circumscribe his almost despotic powers, and to compel him to accept colleagues committed at least to grapple with the gigantic problems of international and national reconstruction.

And if the under-30's in and out of the Army were not disfranchised, the wave of discontent would be more formidable still. "Trust Churchill" has ceased to be a slogan of power. The country does not trust Churchill. It may still trust him to win the war; it certainly does not trust him to win the peace.

Signs of Protest

BEYOND that the political picture is very confused. The Labour Party, deeply compromised by its passive adherence to the Churchill coalition, and without a constructive policy of its own, is just as unpopular as the coalition Tories. We have reached a point at which the very word "Independent" has a compulsive magic of its own; and the idea of independence in any shape or form still more.

The heavy vote of the Scottish Nationalist at Kirkcaldy, where he might have succeeded had the Christian socialist-pacifist not been standing; the moral catastrophe of the coupon candidate at Brighton—of all places; the resounding defeat of Lord Hartington in West Derby: all tell the same tale. There is a universal stirring of the desire for independence: against the coalition machine, against the idea of dependence.

The Scottish Nationalist represents the idea in its most forthright form.

(CONTINUED ON BACK PAGE)

War and the Common People

ETHEL MANNIN

writes for those who can find "nothing much in the papers"

IN the Daily Express of Jan. 26, Alan Moorehead reported that there are reckoned to be about two million people in Rome and its outskirts, and these people, he wrote, "are said to be hungry, panic-stricken, and when the German saboteurs start adding their own demolitions to our bombing there will be many thousands without shelter."

He added, "This horde of helpless human beings is going to be a first-class headache to our soldiers. They will block the roads with their horse-drawn carts. There is no port through which to feed them."

In the Daily Telegraph of Feb. 4 it was confirmed that the present population of Rome is about two millions, double its normal size, that it was greatly overcrowded as a result, and "there is probably only about a fortnight's supply of food."

The Daily Telegraph of the following day gave the caption, "Panic Chaos in Evacuation of Estonia," over a report by Ossian Goulding, in which he referred to "the thunder of Russian guns at the gateway of Narva," adding, "As the Red Army rolls on westwards from Leningrad the whole of Southern Finland is today preparing feverishly against an air blitz. Evacuation of Estonian towns and villages in the path of the Russian advance continues amid scenes of the wildest panic. Roads leading westwards are jammed in hopeless disorder." Berlin has prepared in East Prussia for 1,500,000 refugees from the Baltic States, "but the problem of transport puts this 'refuge' out of reach."

In the Telegraph of the 7th there were two small paragraphs—"10,000 Berlin Houses Hit," and French civilians are warned by Vichy to leave the coast towns without delay.

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THAT is what war means to the common people of Europe—the thunder of guns of approaching

armies, homelessness, the terrible phantom of famine and pestilence (a typhus epidemic has followed the "liberation" of Naples) and the pitiful processions of terror-stricken refugees blocking the roads . . . as in Spain during the civil war.

"Fierce Fighting" is waged in some little town, in Italy, or in Russia; it is a mere sentence in a newspaper, not even particularly interesting . . . since we ourselves don't happen to live there. But if that little town were, say, Market Harborough, or Moreton-in-the-Marsh or Kendal, how vividly our imaginations would leap to the realization of all that was involved—the ransacked cottages, the burnt-out farms, the tanks rolling down the once sleepy little high streets, the machine-gun posts spattering in the narrow lanes; all the tragedy of civilian life pounded out of existence by the guns, and the agony of the fugitive flight along the roads. . . .

But Cassino is just a name, like Ostia and Frascati, and only a few have known the blessed privilege of treading the streets of Rome and known the wind that sweeps up the white dust of the Appian Way across the wide Campagna. And none of us in this country really knows what war means, as the Russians know it, and the Finns, and the Italians, and the French. We have experienced bad air-raids, but air-raids worse than any we have known are only a part of the agony of the common people in whose countries the war is actually being fought.

"House-to-house fighting" is easy enough to read in the newspapers; easy enough to read about the Germans being "prised out" of the houses in Cassino (Daily Telegraph, Feb. 4)

and, if you are given to that sort of rejoicing, to be glad that the Allies are advancing; but supposing it was your house? Supposing the house-to-house fighting was in your street, the "fierce fighting" taking place in your town? Supposing instead of Rome or Narva it was London or Manchester . . . how many, then, in this country would talk so glibly of the fight to a finish, and continuing the war for years if need be?

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THE common people of Italy, with no wish but to be out of the war, are trapped in an inferno horrible beyond anything their poet Dante dreamed of. It is all there behind the headlines of that paper you glance at, a little bored, because there's no new news—only the Allies still advancing in Italy, and the Russians still closing in on Estonia, and French civilians warned to leave the coast . . .

Nothing much in the papers. Only the homelessness, the terror and hunger, the tears and the blood, of the common people caught helplessly in the crimson tide of war.

Headquarters' Fund

THE Treasurer's Autumn Appeal for £1,500 has raised £1,408. The fund in this form is now closed. We are most grateful for all the help that our friends have given us.

Our work is not only being carried on: it is growing. The opportunity for important further advance may come at any time. We need to be, financially as in other ways, in as strong a position as possible, so that we may utilize our opportunities, as they come, to the full.

We recognize that there are members who will be able and glad to send from time to time sums additional to their normal contributions through Groups, Regions and Areas. Special donations of this kind, which should be marked "Headquarters Fund," will be very gratefully received by me at Dick Sheppard House, 6 Endsleigh Street, W.C.1. The amount received will be reported every other week in Peace News.

MAURICE L. ROWNTREE.
Treasurer.

PEACE NEWS

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All letters on other than editorial matters should be addressed to the Manager

ENSLAVED

THIS winter, we wrote some time ago, would be a period of great disillusion. The disillusion has begun. It operates on many levels. Perhaps the most obvious is the deflation of the Churchill legend. It has now become almost a positive handicap to stand for Parliament with a Churchill certificate.

That would be all very well if this were thirty years ago: before the age of total war. But four and a half years of total war have consummated a tendency which was apparent in the years which made total war inevitable. The party system has been eviscerated. The appearance of political vitality is superficial and spurious; the hectic on a fevered cheek. The "independent" candidates—whose programmes are comprehended in Mrs. Corbett-Ashby's slogan: "Churchill for War; Beveridge for Peace"—have no alternative policy. They believe they have: they even persuade others that they have. But "Churchill for War" covers everything, because total war decides everything. The future flows from it inexorably. The idea that you can have Churchill for total war; and somebody different for "peace" is illusory. You may have "somebody" different; but he will be compelled to do the same things. The Beveridge plan itself depends on full employment, and full employment depends on one of two things: the continuance of total war—we have full employment now—or the achievement of total peace: which total war will have made impossible.

The rebellion against Churchill is a futile gesture unless it becomes a total rebellion against total war. It is a rebellion against total war; but it is mainly emotional. People, like Gen. Montgomery, are fed up with it. And they are coming near to being fed up with Churchill, who represents it. But that won't help them. If Churchill were to say to the British nation tomorrow (as he may): "I promise you, on my honour, to give you the Beveridge Plan the moment the war is over, and to abide by every word of the Atlantic Charter," it would make precious little difference to anybody, after a week. Total war would go on. The people would be more fed up.

By voting for "independents," people imagine they are asserting "independence." Assert it they do; but they cannot achieve it. Total war has them enslaved. The only way to end their slavery is to end total war. But all these "independents" are for victory first: therefore, for total war. Do they propose to wage it better than Churchill? To drop the air-bombardment of Germany, or relieve the starvation of Europe? Never a word of that. Do they propose to get better generals than those we have? Churchill himself would gladly employ them, if he knew where to find them.

No, we shall be told, we must go on waging total war; but with a political difference. We must promise the Germans something better than "death and dust and ashes." What German in his senses will believe these promises? Can we make promises about what Russia will do? Can we promise Finland anything? Can we fulfill the solemn promise we have made already to Poland?

Throw Churchill out, by all means, if you have the guts to do so. He has earned the right to be the scapegoat of your disillusion. But unless you throw out total war at the same time, you will be looking for another scapegoat within a year—maybe within a month. "Qui mange de la guerre totale, en meurt." Feed on total war, and you die of it.

Peace News is open for the expression of all pacifist points of view. Articles in it, whether signed or unsigned, do not necessarily represent the policy of the Peace Pledge Union, of which it is the weekly organ. Nor does the acceptance of advertisements imply any endorsement or PPU connection with the matter advertised.

Postal subscription rates: Home: quarterly, 3s. 6d.; yearly, 12s. 6d. Abroad: quarterly, 2s. 6d.; yearly, 10s. 6d.

Displayed advertisements: Maximum size, 8 columns, 4 lines. Copy by first post Friday.

A New World or a New Man?

by WILFRED WELLOCK

EVERYWHERE men are calling for a new world. At the same time a collapsing world is calling for a new man. It is irrefutable that worlds and men wax and wane, burst into glory, weaken and decay, together.

This age appears quite to have forgotten that the world is always the outward expression of the people who inhabit it; that a disordered and crazy world signifies a disordered and crazy generation of men. It is admitted that the world has got into a frightful mess, but few people connect that condition with the state of the public mind.

The prevailing idea seems to be that the world can be put right by a few bargaining arrangements between the boss politicians who fly to secret meetings at the ends of the earth. They are sadly mistaken. The world is unstable because man is unstable, because his life is based on values which cannot be reconciled with justice, and thus with order and tranquillity.

The outstanding fact about modern man is his restlessness and outwardness, his instability arising from a growing sense of helplessness and insecurity. His hold upon life, upon fundamental reality, upon basic freedom, including the right to choose his vocation, determine his life-course and control his means of livelihood, was never weaker than it is today. The average man has ceased to be a human person; he has lost even his individuality and become a mere fragment of a mass-society. Modern society has not yet realized the terrible significance of the mass-man.

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A FEW weeks ago I had to change trains at Kettering, where there was a ten minutes' wait. Sharing

my experience was a group of American soldiers. We had scarcely taken our breath when three of the Americans began to toss coins: head or tail, the odd man winning. The stakes were pound notes. Every five seconds £2 changed hands.

A fellow looker-on said to me: "Those men have too much money." "No," I replied, "they are suffering from the new American disease: restlessness."

On the wireless, the other week a few people described the life in small country towns in various parts of the British Isles. The last speaker was an American soldier, who compared life in a country town in Northern Ireland, where he then was, with life in his own small country town in America. The joke of the Irish town was a horse-drawn street-car, which joke was heightened by the fact that the people had recently voted against exchanging it for an up-to-date outfit.

We were told that the distinguishing characteristic of Americans was their machine-mindedness. They were born among machines and expected to do everything with them. Whatever be the job, the Americans looked around for a machine. They worked on machines all day, and expected good pay in order that they might run around afterwards in a machine of their own.

In Ireland, if a man wanted a loaf of bread he would just walk down the street to the baker's, but in America he would jump into his car and run into the nearest city. The word which distinguished the American from all other people was "speed." But speed led to restlessness: hence Americans were always on the move. They could not tolerate being still or alone.

He concluded with the confession that his Irish experience had caused him to think, even to doubt the wisdom of the American way of life.

LETTERS

Immovable Obstacle?

ARCHIMEDES said that if he had a fulcrum he would lift the world. Mr. Bedoyère is against a negotiated peace as impracticable and likely to be productive of more evil; he suggests we pacifists should concentrate now on achieving a basis for a Christian and just peace. I would ask him where the fulcrum is to be found which would enable the lifting of the mass of hate, unconditional surrender and total-destruction-of-our-enemies mentality, out of the way, so that the men of good will, who want, and know very well what is meant by the words, a Christian and just peace, could put forth their ideas and gain acceptance for them?

It goes without saying that there is enough good will in this country from the House of Lords downwards to create what Mr. Bedoyère calls a bloc. Yet the challenge to come forward seems to fall on deaf ears. Why? Here at hand is an opportunity to bring back the lost prestige of this country, in the wrong and deeply sinning as she is.

We made this war, and maybe the retribution that must be meted out to us will be that another country will plan and bring about a Christian and just peace.

(Rev.) EDWARD STILL

Woodlea, Broad Oak,
Heathfield, Sussex.

C.O.s' Prospects

One reads a great deal in PN regarding the politics and philosophy of pacifism—of the "Future of Europe" and the post-war planning of continents. These are subjects very near the heart of all C.O.s. But one very real concern of those suffering imprisonment or some ungenial type of occupation imposed by a tribunal, is the "personal" future that we shall face after the war. Will C.O.s working on the land, for instance, be "demobbed" at the cessation of hostilities—or will they still be controlled by the Essential Works Order? Many of us do not expect our jobs back—what type of jobs will be open to us?

It seems that there is scope for a great deal of work in the "rehabilitation" of C.O.s—many land-workers especially who are isolated from their pre-war commercial contacts are seeking some avenue through which they can find a post-war livelihood more satisfying than farm work—some are already studying correspond-

ence courses to fit them for post-war competition. Could not this personal angle of C.O.s be dealt with more fully in your columns? It might be to some advantage if C.O.s scattered through the country, could contact other C.O.s and sympathizers in their own pre-war trades and professions with the idea of linking up with commercial units as soon as conditions permit. To feel that one was building some skeleton of a future out of the present chaos would surely bring hope to many who are at present suffering for their convictions and dreading the competition of the post-war labour market.

H. MICHAEL HUGHES

5 Station Rd., Eppingham, Surrey.

Dostoevsky

On Jan. 21 "Observer" wrote: "The Russian contempt for the Poles finds utterance even in the work of so great a writer as Dostoevsky. His portrait of the Polish panie in 'The Brothers Karamazov' is biting . . . but palpably unjust."

This criticism is unjust. In Book VIII chap. VIII (Constance Garnett's translation) Dmitri, drunk, and one of the two Poles, call each other "lajdak," and Kaganov—a Russian—says to Dmitri: "Leave off laughing at Poland." Dmitri replies: "Be quiet, boy! If I call him a scoundrel it doesn't mean that I called all Poland so. One lajdak doesn't make a Poland. Be quiet, my pretty boy, eat a sweetmeat."

DOREEN PARRY

119 Parkway, Gidea Park, Essex.

"Observer" writes: "I stick to my opinion of the incident as a whole."—Ed.

Lives v. Buildings

Lord Latham during the debate on Cassino bombing (Nov. 16) states: "I would not be willing to sacrifice my son for any building in the world." What about the Firewatching (Business Premises) Order?

G. BADEN BEADLE

Riverpark Avenue, Staines.

Reproach

I suggested to a pro-war lady that possibly an advertisement in Peace News might procure the employee she required. She did not advertise but answered three advertisements, receiving no reply. I said people did not usually reply unless they wanted the offered post. She replied: "But pacifists! and I enclosed stamped envelopes!"

M. ILES

Query

Would any of your readers explain to me how far non-violent resistance can be carried out in the case of a great wrong committed by some person who has entirely destroyed all that is dear in the life of another? Will non-violent resistance serve him, and how?

A. W. HINKLEY

86 Lower Park Rd., Hastings.

In view of the many claims on our very limited space, correspondents are urged to keep their letters under 250 words.

"The people here have got something we haven't, and that is contentment," and he was beginning to wonder if, after all, contentment were not better than speed and restlessness.

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THAT sounded hopeful. Certainly the traffic around New York every morning and evening is as near to hell as I ever want to be. The road from Long Island to New York is then, on any spring, summer or autumn evening, a twenty-mile traffic jam—a pitiless line of despairing, agonized faces and vociferous explosions. It suggests what is in store for us after the war, for we are travelling the American road. Whereas America, having blocked her roadways, will ascend into the air and blot out the sky. A new world indeed!

We live increasingly in mass-excitement. Dog-racing accounts for £1½ millions a year in bets in Glasgow alone, and for a similar sum in Manchester and Salford. A man recently stated in my house that as a factory "bookie" he lost £280 to his fellow-workers in one "bad" fortnight during the last racing season. He runs a weekly 2s. 6d. factory football sweep, in which large numbers of youth of both sexes take part. The "pool" is large enough to fill the entire week with excitement, what with discussing players and teams and looking forward to the results.

The fact to grasp, however, is that this excitement makes factory life tolerable, by easing the strain of exasperating repetition work. It also produces an atmosphere in which the factory worker experiences a species of unity, for which the mass-man craves. But it is highly dangerous, for people who work and gamble together will probably vote together. In the mass-man democracy perishes.

The problem of how to build a new world is really the problem of how to transform the mass-man into a human person.

Just Out:

THE C.O.s HANSARD No. 15

(6d.; by post 7d.)

What Parliament said about C.O.s from May, 1943, to Jan. 27, 1944 (except the Duke of Bedford's motion)

QUESTIONS TO C.O.s

(2d.; by post 3d.)

C.B.C.O., 6 Endsleigh St., W.C.1.

CUI BONO?

Somebody: here's evidence—

"The P.M.R.C. have already succeeded in improving the medical service in British prisons."

—John P. Fletcher, prison visitor.

"... certain of the complaints" (in the pamphlet "Prison for Women") "have already been remedied."

—Herbert Morrison, Home Secy.

But there is much to be done. Help by sending a donation (carrying membership rights):

Prison Medical Reform Council.
5 Lower Camden, Chislehurst, Kent

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A constructive field of work in which you can help with your savings. Particulars of activities, membership and loans

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Plans for the A.G.M.

AS has already been announced to groups, the PPU Annual General Meeting will be held this year at Friends House, Euston Road, London, N.W.1, on Saturday and Sunday, Apr. 22 and 23. Preliminary agendas and delegate forms will be sent to groups shortly.

Individual tickets can be obtained through groups or direct from Head Office. Applications must give the

I RENOUNCE WAR AND I WILL NEVER SUPPORT OR SANCTION ANOTHER

This pledge, signed by each member, is the basis of the Peace Pledge Union. Send YOUR pledge to

P.P.U. HEADQUARTERS

Dick Sheppard House, Endsleigh St., WC1

name and address of the member and be accompanied by 1s.

All signatories to the PPU Pledge are entitled to vote in the election of the 20 nationally-elected members of PPU National Council and officers, and those who wish to vote should get in touch with their nearest group or contact member as soon as possible. Voting papers will be issued to the local returning officers on Mar. 23, and must be returned bearing a postmark not later than Apr. 9. Nominations for Council and officers must be received at Head Office by Mar. 13, and AGM resolutions (which must come through Area Committees) by the same date.

A Note on P.R.

The earlier method of electing PPU Council was the equivalent of that in constituencies returning several members when each voter has as many votes as there are vacancies. This is a notoriously unrepresentative method of election. In, say, a five-member constituency where each voter has five votes, three-fifths of the voters may well elect all five members, the remaining two-fifths being unrepresented.

A fairer method is to give each voter only one vote; it would then be possible, if the voting could be carefully pre-arranged, for the result to give three members to represent the three-fifths, and two members to represent the two-fifths, all the voters being represented.

The difficulty would be to arrange for sufficiently accurate voting. If the three-fifths all voted for one candidate because of his personal popularity, it might happen that they elected one member only while the two-fifths elected the other four. Proportional representation by what is called "the single transferable vote" is designed to keep the advantages of the single vote while preventing such anomalies.

Each voter has still only one vote, but, to

prevent his wasting it entirely by giving it to a candidate who has more votes than he needs, or to one who has no chance of being elected, he is permitted to mark his paper with the numbers 1 to 5 (and so on, according to the number of candidates) to indicate to which candidate he prefers his vote to go if it is of no use to the first candidate of his choice.

In practice this means that if a voter gives his first choice to a popular candidate on'y perhaps a quarter or third of his vote will be used to elect that candidate. The rest of his vote will be distributed between his other choices. And even if his first choice is not elected his vote will help to elect the candidates whom he believes to be the best substitutes.

The method of counting votes under proportional representation is somewhat more complicated than under the ordinary English method. This need worry only the returning officer. The method of voting is quite simple. Millions of Sunday newspaper readers have used it in competitions in which they are asked to mark in order of preference their favourite film stars.

The great advantage of the method, now adopted for the election of 20 members of PPU National Council, is that it allows representatives of minority groups and provincial areas to be elected more fairly.

If 4,000 members vote, any candidate who is the first choice of about 190 members will be sure of election. The widely popular figures would be elected on only a proportion of the votes given in their favour.

Those who wish to investigate the method in more detail will find excellent accounts in the following publications, all of which are obtainable from the Peace Pledge Union Bookshop:

The Case for Electoral Reform. S. R. Daniels. Allen and Unwin, 8s. 6d.

P.R. Leaflet No. 5, Proportional Representation, What It Is and How It Works.

P.R. Leaflet No. 8, Illustrative P.R. Election. (The two leaflets will be sent for the cost of 1½d. to cover postage and envelope.)

A.C.S.

AN EXAMPLE TO FOLLOW

A plan to help forward our campaign for a 20,000 circulation of Peace News is suggested by a regular reader:

"Let a number of present subscribers (say 200, if possible) take out a 3 months' subscription for an extra copy of PN, for the express purpose of passing this additional copy on each week to a friend who might be persuaded to become a regular reader."

He points out that 100 per cent. success in this method would secure 2,400 additional subscribers! Even though this may be too much to expect, the idea is a good one.

Already nearly 300 new readers are receiving PN for 3 months on a trial-subscription basis of 2s. for 3 months. Of this total about sixty subscriptions have been paid for by PN readers themselves.

Our correspondent has already taken his own advice and ordered an extra copy from his local distributor. Will you follow his example?

ROY WALKER IN PRISON AGAIN

ROY WALKER, joint secretary of the PPU Food Relief Campaign, was fined £10 or six weeks' imprisonment at Clerkenwell police court on Feb. 16 for failing to obey a direction to agricultural work. He refused to pay the fine and is in prison.

"I shall continue to disobey such direction orders in future" Roy Walker told the magistrate (Mr. Frank Powell). "I feel I am doing my best service to the community by the work I am engaged in. Members of both Houses of Parliament have in fact said to Mr. Bevin that they consider the work I am doing of considerable importance and that I should be allowed to continue in it."

Roy Walker has already served a sentence of six months' imprisonment for refusal to submit to medical examination.

"CAT-AND-MOUSE" AGAIN

For refusing to do part-time Rescue Service duty, to which he had been directed by the Ministry of Labour, Kenneth O'Brien of Norwich (now living at Hull) was fined £1 on each of two charges at Norwich City police court on Feb. 7. He had previously served three weeks in prison for a similar offence.

Mr. Harry Bailey, solicitor for Kenneth O'Brien, protested against the second prosecution, and the chairman of the Bench, announcing the sentence said: "It is repugnant to the idea of British justice that a man who has already been tried and penalized for an offence should be everlastingly liable to be brought up again for the same offence."

The fine was paid by someone unknown to the CO.

Applying to the Appellate Tribunal after a sentence of six months' imprisonment following his sixth court-martial, Gilbert Lane of Wallington, Surrey, appeared before the third (London) division presided over by Sir Francis Floud on Feb. 18. He was represented by Robert Egerton, Joint Hon. Legal Adviser to the Central Board for COs. The decision was reserved.

Gilbert Lane had served 28 days' detention, three months' imprisonment, 6 months' detention, 93 days' imprisonment, and 18 months' detention before being awarded his present sentence. He is the only CO of this war to have been court-martialled six times.

ADVISORY BUREAUX

South Eastern Regional Secretary.—H. M. Hood, now c/o 105 Heath Lane, Dartford, Kent.

Bideford (Devon).—Now V. C. Boyle, "Santhia," Beach Road, Westward Ho, N. Devon. (Individual adviser.)

Frome (Somerset).—H. R. Windridge, 2 Wallbridge Avenue, Frome.

Cumberland and Westmorland Regional Secretary.—T. S. Bowman, Fowey House, Carlisle.

Monmouth.—Now A. Ewart Rusbridge, 37 St. James' Square, Monmouth. (Individual adviser.)

INDIAN FAMINE MEETING

A public meeting on "Famine in India" will be held in the Conway Hall, Red Lion Square, London, W.C.1, on Sunday, at 2.30 p.m., under the chairmanship of Lord Ammon. Speakers will be V. K. Krishna Menon and Ken Baker (President, Fire Brigades Union). There will also be songs, readings, and Indian music. Admission will be free, apart from a few reserved seats at 1s. The organizers are two branches of the International Friendship League.

Words of Peace—61

Battles in a China Shop

Do you think that in this 19th century it is still necessary for the European nations to turn all the places where their principal art treasures are into battlefields? ... the great firm of the world is managing its business at this moment just as it has done in past time. Imagine what would be the thriving circumstances of a manufacturer of some delicate products—suppose glass, or china—in whose workshop and exhibition rooms all the workmen and clerks began fighting at least once a day, first blowing off the steam and breaking all the machinery they could reach, and then making fortresses of all the cupboards and attacking and defending the showcases, the victorious party finally throwing everything they could get hold of out of the window by way of showing their triumph, and the poor manufacturer, picking up and putting away at last a cup here, and a handle there. A fine prosperous business that would be, wouldn't it? And yet that is precisely the way the great manufacturing firm of the world carries on its business.

It has so arranged its political struggles for the last six or seven hundred years that not one of them could be fought out but in the midst of its most precious art; and it so arranges them to this day.

—Ruskin: Political Economy of Art.

WELSH COUNCIL OF PEACE

Pending further discussion of the proposal to form a Welsh Council of Peace, the following ad hoc committee has been formed as a result of a recent conference of Welsh pacifist bodies in Cardiff: President, George M. Ll. Davies; chairman, Graham Thomas; acting secretary, Miss Gwyneth Davies; Mrs. Dan Thomas, treasurer of Heddychwyr Cymru; Rev. George Shilton-Evans, Vicar of Pontypridd; Rev. D. R. Thomas, of Aberdare; Lady Mildred Artemus-Jones; Rev. J. P. Davies, of Portmadoc; Rev. J. H. Griffiths, of Denbigh.

The delegates at the Cardiff conference felt unable to commit their organizations without further discussion. The conference asked the committee to call a national conference in Wales this year.

TENDED ENEMY WOUNDED

Capt. John J. Sumner, R.A.M.C., of Leeds, who led a stretcher party to bring in Japanese wounded lying in a position swept by machine-gun fire on the Arakan front, was reported on Feb. 11 to have been awarded the M.C.

CLASSIFIED ADVERTISEMENTS

TERMS: Cash with order, except for series bookings. Copy by Monday, 2d. per word, minimum 2s. 6d. (Box No. 6d. extra.) Address for Box No. replies: Peace News, 3 Blackstock Rd., N.4.

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When corresponding with PN about an advertisement, quote its first words, classification, and date.

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C.O.'s WIFE with two children interested possible accommodation safe area. Box 322.

DERBYSHIRE HILLS. Food Reform Vegetarian Guest House for happy holidays or restful recuperation; all modern comforts. A. and K. S. Ludlow, The Briars, Crich, Matlock (Station: Ambergate; Tel. Ambergate 44).

FOR ALL properties to be let or sold in N.W. London and Districts, apply to McCraith and Brooks, Auctioneers and Surveyors, 44 Market Place, N.W.11. (Speedwell 9888, 5 lines), who will give special attention to the requirements of pacifists.

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LONDON AREA: business man requires a good kindly home for 3-year-old daughter and self, widower aged 34 years. Telephone and garage an advantage. Good terms offered. Please write to Mr. E. Alexander, 26 Half Moon St., London, W.1.

UNFURNISHED COTTAGE or from 2 or 4 unfurnished rooms wanted by 2 pacifist business men (bachelors). Rural area anywhere within 150 miles of London. Write full particulars, Box 324.

PACIFIST ACCOUNTANT and Swiss clerk (also pacifist) having to make periodical business calls in Surrey desire to arrange occasional temporary accommodation in that vicinity with pacifist family. Visits of about 7 days' duration every 5 or 6 weeks. Rural area preferred within 1 hour's journey of Weybridge, Richmond and Reading. Most meals obtained out. Willing to pay reasonably. Write full particulars Box 323.

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YOUNG C.O. family urgently need unfurnished house, flat or rooms in or near Chesterfield. Box 326.

YOUNG MAN and wife, C.O.s, son aged 24, require furnished or unfurnished rooms or house, Wellington (Shropshire) district. Box 329.

EDUCATIONAL

FIND RECREATION and new power to serve through speaking and writing. Correspondence (also visit) lessons 6s., classes 1s. 6d. Dorothy Matthews, B.A., 32 Primrose Hill Rd., London, N.W.3.

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LAMB BRAND typewriter ribbons. Cleanest, clearest, longest, 3s. 6d. each, postage paid; 10s. three; 18s. 6d. six. Name models, colours, Peace News. Hardman and Sons, 15 Prospect Place, Preston.

OUR 1944 Seed Catalogue now ready. Write for your copy. Rule. Seedsman, Newman St., Shirley, Southampton.

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WANTED, copy of "The Ballad of Reading Gaol," preferably with woodcuts by Masereel. Box 326.

WAR RESISTERS' INTERNATIONAL would welcome gifts of foreign stamps, for subsequent sale on behalf of W.R.I. funds. Any such gifts received with gratitude. Please send to the War Resisters' International, 11 Abbey Rd., Enfield, Middlesex.

LITERATURE, etc.

CHRIST IS COMING. Interesting new Booklet on what must come to pass first, 6d. post free from Secretary, Prophetic League, 21 Poplar Grove, New Malden, Surrey.

GIFT FOR C.C.s in prison, "How Green Was My Valley." Relatives write. Marshall, 21 Wheatlands Drive, Bradford, Yorks.

BOOKS LOANED to C.O.s on land etc.; without obligation. Write for list Marshall as above.

NEW PAMPHLETS, with Poems. No. I on Penal Reform, with intr. by Stuart Morris; No. II "Still Towards Democracy," by Alan Hadfield, M.A. Cantab. Post free 1s. 7d. each. Northern Lights Press, 16 Park Pde., Harrogate.

QUAKERISM. Information and literature respecting the Faith and Practice of the Religious Society of Friends, free on application to the Friends' Home Service Committee, Friends' House, Euston Rd., London, N.W.1.

MEETINGS, etc.

ALL EX-PRISONER C.O.s welcome to chat and breakfast on first Sunday morning each month, 109 Elgin Crescent, Ladbroke Grove, W.11.

BOURNEMOUTH Post-War Reconstruction Group, 5 Wellington Road, Fri., Mar. 3, 7.30 p.m., Irene Barclay: "Our Towns."

"CHRISTIANITY in the post-war world," by the Rev. R. H. Le Mesurier. Post-free price 10d. 12 copies 6s. 6d. 47 Argyle St., London, W.C.1.

DR. FRANZ HILDEBRANDT on "The Mission of the Refugee." Kingsway Hall, W.C.2, Fri., Mar. 3, at 1.10 p.m. Admission free. National Peace Council.

EAST MIDLANDS Area, annual general meeting, Sat., Mar. 4, 4 p.m., at the Friends' Adult School, Friar Lane, Nottingham. All members who can possibly attend are urged to do so.

ERIC SAVAGE addresses the Northampton Breakfast on Sun., Mar. 5, "Tolstoy." Friends' Meeting House, Wellington St., 8.30.

FULHAM LEFT FORUM (I.L.P.). Bill Grindlay (P.P.U.), Sun., Mar. 5, 2.45 p.m., Co-op Hall, 249 Dawes Rd., S.W.6.

NORTH LONDON Region: from March, breakfasts will be held the last instead of the first Sunday in the month. Next breakfast Mar. 26, at Independent Church, Knight's Lane, Edmonton, N.9, at 8.30 a.m.

QUAKERS and the Sacraments. Public lunch-hour address, Friends' House, Euston Rd., N.W.1, by Horace B. Pointing, Feb. 29, at 1.20 p.m.

SOUTHERN AREA annual meeting, Mar. 4-5, Winchester. St. Maurice Hall, Colebrook St., 3 p.m. Sybil Morrison 6 p.m. All welcome.

PERSONAL

CONTACT CORRESPONDENCE CLUB. A satisfactory medium for those desiring congenial pen-friendships. Particulars, stamp, Secy., PN, 19 Ty Fry Gardens, Rumney, Cardiff. JOIN Victory Correspondence Club, 34 Honeywell Rd., S.W.11, for congenial pen-friends. Stamp.

MEMBERS of the London Co-operative Society wishing to sign the Armistice resolution being submitted to the London Co-operative Society's half-yearly meeting should communicate with Will Coppin, 130 Balfour Rd., Ilford. The last date for signing will be Mar. 20—so do it now.

SITUATIONS VACANT

CANTEEN MANAGER (full time) required at the Hungerford Club, 25s. maintenance and lodging. Either sex. Apply Box 327.

C.P.F.L.U. have need of male C.P. land workers to complete Units in 3 hostels. One not under E.W.O. Groups of 4 or 5 friends could apply. Write Sec., Room 16, Kingsway Hall, London, W.C.2.

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MEDICAL Assistant required with view to partnership. Apply Dr. Harold Thomas, St. Clare, Merthyr Tydfil.

MILK Roundsman or Woman to do milk and dairy produce distribution, round with Ford car. Good wages to capable person. Dairy, Bucks. Box 303.

VEGETARIAN HOME for children, View Rd., Rainhill, Liverpool. Woman wanted to assist with young children—and generally. Willing, work hard in good cause. Comfortable home. Vegetarian diet. State age, experience.

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MISCELLANEOUS

INSTITUTE PSYCHOLOGY, Kensington. Lectures every Tuesday 7 p.m. Philosophy, genuine social introductions. Consultations all problems. Western 8935.

PACIFIST HEALTH CENTRE. Natural treatment of disease and eyes; manipulative massage; water and dietetic treatment, etc. Principal: Reg. J. Bailey, M.S.F., N.C.P., Osteopath and Naturopath (ex-Maidstone C.O.), 134 Hoppers Rd., Winchmore Hill, N.21. Palmers Green 7868, by appointment.

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Do you read Peace News Pamphlets? They are published at approximately monthly intervals, deal with subjects of topical interest, and cost only 1d. each. Ask your PN distributor about them, or in case of difficulty write to 3 Blackstock Rd., N.4.

PPU members who move should remember the importance of notifying their change of address to Headquarters (6 Endsleigh St., W.C.1) so that the membership records may be kept up to date.

"Try for Armistice Before Invasion"

THE Women's International League for Peace and Freedom in USA has urged President Roosevelt to postpone the plan of invasion until every possible appeal for an armistice has been made to the German people over the heads of the Nazi Government, in a letter which declares that the loss of lives on the Italian beach-head is a foretaste of "the awful cost that the actual invasion is bound to bring." Commenting on this, The Times, Feb. 16, says:

"When the League tells Mr. Roosevelt of its conviction that there are 'unexplored possibilities' in the field of peace efforts, something has been said which some will wish to believe, and which it is to be feared, some politicians may strive to exploit. There are millions of women voters."

What Do the Allies Mean?

The following letter from Senor Salvador de Madariaga (who was Spanish delegate to the League of Nations for six years) appeared in The Times on Saturday, headed "Sovereign Equality":

POINT 4 of the Joint Declaration adopted at the Moscow Conference by the three Powers reads: "That they recognize the necessity of establishing . . . a general international organization based on the principle of the sovereign equality of all peace-loving States." Now we hear that the Soviet Union will not accept collaboration with the Polish Government unless (his Government excludes from its ranks one or two persons regarded as hostile by Moscow: while your Buenos Aires Correspondent, commenting on the recent changes in the Bolivian Government, writes: "Although the resigning Ministers and their successors all belong to the same party of the right . . . the change is important because Senor Montenegro and Senor Cespedes . . . are regarded as personally hostile to the United States, and especially to American financial power."

What is then meant by sovereign equality of peace-loving States? Does it mean that "peace-loving" is going to be interpreted as "loving Communism" in the East and "loving American capitalism" in the West? This question is anxiously put, not forgetting—indeed, on the contrary, remembering—the heroic share which thousands of Russians and Americans are taking in the shaping of the world to come.

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KRISHNAMURTI

"Most of us are apt to think that through legislation, through mere organisation or leadership, the problems of war and peace will be solved. As we do not want to be responsible, individually, for this inner and outer turmoil in our lives, we look to authority, to mass action. But one can have abiding, lasting peace only when the individual understands himself and his relation with another, which makes society and when the individual, who is the world, sets about definitely to discover the causes within himself which produce confusion, sorrow, hate and war."

TALKS IN 1940: 2s. 6d. post free.

The Star Publishing Agency,
29 Park Lane, Wembley, Middlesex,
or from
P.P.U. Bookshop, 6 Endsleigh St., W.C.1

U.S. SENATE SUPPORTS FOOD RELIEF

First "Challenge" to the British Government

THE United States Senate has come out for food relief now. This is the effect of its action in passing unanimously the Taft-Gillette Resolution (No. 100) which had been remitted to it by the Foreign Affairs Committee. "It does not require approval by the House of Representatives" said the Daily Telegraph (Feb. 16) in pointing out that under the American constitution such a resolution is a recommendation to the Executive.

The Future of the Coalition

'OBSERVER' CONTINUED

But I believe all the manifestations are of a single sentiment: a belated and incoherent protest of the British people against the universal pressure towards totalitarianism.

Churchill's Position

I FEAR they have left it too late. This incoherent rebellion lacks purpose and programme. The function of constructive opposition has been left too long in abeyance, too long lacked the focus of a leader with responsible ideas on the domestic and international future, to be more than negative now.

Churchill is an astute politician, though his instinct seems now to be failing. He must be aware that the country no longer regards him as more than a temporary leader; that his chance of victory in a post-war election is dwindling day by day; that, even if he were to win, his majority would be precarious and futile.

The idea of a coalition government to carry the country through the worst of the after-war period has been shattered. That is Churchill's own doing. It is the disservice to the country which in the judgment of history will outweigh all his services.

The Price We Pay

A COALITION government with a critical opposition (I believe) was the best hope of this country for the years immediately after the war. Churchill has ruined its chances, by making the present coalition a by-word for unimaginative stagnation.

Now, after nearly four years of it, men begin to glimpse the price they will pay for the Churchillian infantilism of "Win the war first—nothing else matters. That infantilism will prevent Britain even from winning the war. How can a European nation win by the destruction of Europe? All for lack of a constructive vision of Europe to be, and Britain's part in it.

Domestically, the stagnation is now fantastic. Not a single decision of fundamental importance has been taken on which the reconstruction of this country can be based. The coal industry is now slipping steadily towards chaos. The capital resources of agriculture are dangerously deteriorating.

In both cases the parrot-cry of "nationalization" comes from the pink Left: and its blank negation from the pale blue Right. Both are irrelevant to the real situation. The Churchill coalition has left all the problems to become insoluble. "After me, the deluge!"

Enlighten the Blind!

I AM sometimes accused of being a Jeremiah, I fancy by people who have not read that prophet. Those who have, may feel (as I do) that about the best service one can do one's country nowadays is to be a Jeremiah.

The vague optimism and the equally vague (though more deep-seated) pessimism which irrationally alternate in the mood of the country are about the worst possible preparation for the period of political, moral and spiritual crisis that lies immediately ahead.

The present outbreak of apparent political vitality is the British form of the incoherent revolutionary nationalism that is now sweeping over Europe. It is just as devoid of constructive idea and purpose. "Down with coalition!" is as barren as "Down with the Nazis!" The real problem in the one case is to make a good and creative coalition: in the other to discover a good national-socialism. Both those things involved ending the war.

The resolution calls upon Mr. Cordell Hull to co-operate with Britain, Sweden, and Switzerland to formulate a relief scheme to feed the most needy sections of the population of Belgium, Norway, Poland, the Netherlands, Greece, Yugoslavia and Czecho-slovakia. It stipulates that any system of relief should be based on an agreement by the belligerents for the protection of native and imported foodstuffs with "rigid" safeguards.

Following on the Gallup Poll revelation that 65 per cent. of Americans are in favour of European relief now, there could be no more striking evidence of the strength of public opinion on the matter in the United States. "Britain's refusal to allow food to the starving children of Europe" was, indeed, listed in a cable from P. H. Powell published in The Star on Monday as one of five "chief questions which have stirred up the American public recently" against Britain.

ADMINISTRATION'S ATTITUDE

But what happens next clearly depends on the attitude of the Administration, and in this connection the following despatch from the Times Washington correspondent (Feb. 17) is highly significant:

"The attitude of the State Department towards a resolution of the Senate conveying to the White House and State Department its approval of the lifting of the blockade to permit the sending of food to European countries occupied by Germany was briefly indicated today by the Under-Secretary of State, Mr. Stettinius . . .

"The situation in general had been examined from time to time, and now was again being considered in the light of present circumstances.

"It has been said by those who urge action that President Roosevelt himself would welcome the passage of the resolution as an aid in dealing with Britain—or, as its proponents insist, with the Prime Minister. It is noted that this is the first 'challenge' to the British Government since the war began." (Our emphasis.)

It is widely believed in Washington that unanimity in the Senate would not have been reached if the Administration were opposed to the general proposal. It is also clear from the scope of the resolution that it has for its blue-print, so to speak, the Kershner Plan.

Stop another Harvest of Death!

IN Europe a generation's harvest is about to be reaped. The reaping machines are standing ready at the entrance of the field—on land, and sea and in sky.

They are waiting the word to go in and reap the harvest of the last twenty-five years. And the harvest will not be a gathering in, but will complete a continent-wide destruction.

Twenty-five years ago, a similar generation's work went up in the smoke of battlefields and stench of rotting bodies.

There is but little point in making vain attempts to prevent the burning of the present field of tares! It is probably inevitable, although where the tares are human lives, however misinformed, pity and mercy must needs cry out at least against the indiscriminate ruthlessness of the burning.

★

But when the fields are burnt out, and the victims of a generation's folly and sin have been covered up, what then? It would be good if they could be left fallow, and be swept by God's wind and rain and sun, that even the poisonous remains may be robbed of their virulence. But mankind is ceaselessly active, and new seed will soon be germinating.

One of the properties of soil is that it will start growth for any plant-life—good or bad—wheat or tares. It

Church Assembly Support

Meanwhile, in Britain the Church Assembly has reiterated its support for limited relief—this time with three dissentients. Here are excerpts, from press reports, of three leading speeches:—

Canon Kerby (Manchester): It was intolerable that Christian people should be forced to acquiesce in the slow starvation of their fellows. The International Red Cross should be trusted to see that the miserable pittance of food reached the right people.

Dean of Salisbury (Very Rev. E. L. Henderson): People were dying because the British Government would not take a slight risk.

Bishop of Chichester (Dr. G. K. Bell): The real danger was that of being too late. There were signs that a real catastrophe was being approached. The state of Europe was incredibly grave. Civilization was perishing before their eyes. The longer the delay the fewer would be the children not only to profit by food relief, but to survive to rebuild their countries.

THE NEED IN GREECE

How great the need remains even in Greece, the only country where controlled relief has been introduced, was revealed in press interviews with Mr. A. J. Sbarounis, former Director-General of the Greek Ministry of Finance, who escaped from Greece recently. He told reporters that "Famine still exists in Greece, and although it is not as bad as in the winter of 1941, conditions may become worse. Food shipments from Allied countries have risen to 18,000 tons a month, but to supply the Greeks with 60 per cent. of their pre-war food 38,000 tons a month are necessary."

Hilditch on Kirkcaldy Result

The result of the Kirkcaldy by-election, in which Henry Hilditch stood as Christian Socialist candidate with the support of the Peace Pledge Union, was declared on Friday, as follows: T. F. Hubbard (Labour), 8,268; D. C. C. Young (Scottish Nationalist), 6,621; H. Hilditch, 1,126. The Labour vote at the 1935 general election was 19,457, in a straight fight with a Conservative.

Here is a comment on Friday's result given to Peace News by Henry Hilditch:

FOUR years of war and war propaganda could not be overcome in what was a comparatively long election campaign. Far from losing the fight, to have gained 1,000 adherents is very heartening—the struggle has only just begun.

The most disquieting factor was the large vote for the Scottish Nationalist. The cheap slogans, the catchpenny promises, and the undisguised hatred of Englishmen of some of the rank-and-file were too reminiscent of fascism to allow any rejoicing in the anti-Government vote.

I'd like to thank all those who sent money and good wishes—I hope to have done something to justify their generosity—and especially to thank Betty Evans and John Downing, who served the campaign devotedly in many capacities. Alec Smith, Bill Haldane, Peggy Milne, Albert Tomlinson, and visiting speakers also did great work on the spot and PHU members at Glasgow, Edinburgh, Dundee, Newcastle and in the constituency helped tremendously by addressing envelopes and poll cards. The list is not complete—it cannot be—but it cannot be concluded without mentioning Donald Port, who guided the campaign effectively as agent.

by Frank R. Hancock

has no means of selection—it must needs fructify whatever is broadcast in it. How perfect a picture of our human society, potentially both good and evil, giving only the abundant life that may become wheat or tares, according to the prevalent spirit of the age.

And the fruit of the second of two generations—our generations, is about to be destroyed as worthless. What a little part of the world's last twenty-five years' work has been gathered as harvest!

The broadcasters of good seed came years too late. So we have to stand by battlefields, and worse still, bombed cities, until the national authorities have wrought their dire destruction, when they may graciously permit folks like us to go through with food and healing.

But we ought to have stepped in when barriers were being built between nations, when news was being suppressed, and specious propaganda was broadcast, and national greed and "aspirations" were staking out new claims, or fortifying old ones. Had the religious bodies and progressive political parties of Britain, for instance, been one-hundredth part as interested in "foreign" politics as they are today, catastrophe need not have befallen us, and relief work would never have been required. Had they been in at seed-time, good seed would have been sown, and there would today have been a rich harvest of Truth, Beauty and Usefulness, instead of the growth that could not by any means be gathered, but only destroyed.

I am prepared to support the Editor of the Catholic Herald and anyone else who will concentrate on removing every incipient cause of war in international relations.

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